Loyola
OF MONTREAL

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LOYOLA CENTENNIAL TOURNEY TAKEN OVER BY HOCKEY CANADA

Things will be slightly different this year as Dave Draper's hockey Warriors head into the Hockey Canada Tournament starting Saturday at Pointe Claire Arena.

For the first time since Loyola College initiated Canada's first college hockey tournament back in 1967, the West End college will not have to look after many organizational and promotional activities that go with staging an event of this nature. Due to the success of Loyola's tournament since its inception, Hockey Canada was impressed with the idea and saw fit to enter into the picture.

Hockey Canada has Loyola's blessing as they take over the staging of the formerly named Loyola Centennial Invitational Hockey Tournament, which was captured by Tom Watt's University of Toronto Blues the first three years, before Loyola won it from them 10-4 in the 1970 version. Loyola had been finalists against Toronto in 1968 and 1969.

Loyola's Athletic Director Ed Enos, who originally conceived the idea of an annual holiday hockey tournament, stated, "We are proud that Hockey Canada has seen fit to take over a project that we at Loyola started during Centennial year, and we are particularly happy that the name on the winning trophy for the Montreal section of the tournament will stay the same, "The Centennial Trophy", because of its significance to us and to all of Canada." The trophy was originally donated by Dave Molson.

This year Dave Draper's crew will be able to concentrate solely on re-capturing the trophy they first won a year ago. Four seniors will be participating in their last year of college hockey at Loyola, and winning the Cup two years running will be nice way to go out. Graduating are John Hutton, captain Chris Hayes, Mike Thomassin and Bill Doyle. Doyle was chosen tourney MVP last year for his strong play.

During the past years the Canadian Arena Company has been the guarantor for Loyola, but the ink never ran red as the teams selected and the pairings always insured a good gate. Who can forget the Sir George-Loyola clashes, the U.S. entries, Boston College Eagles, Michigan Tech Huskies, and Harvard Crimson Tide, other Canadian schools like Laurentian Voyageurs and Alberta Golden Bears, and of course, the epic finals three years running between the Toronto Varsity Blues and Loyola Warriors?

College hockey has made gigantic strides in the last ten years in Canada, and the contribution this tournament has made to that growth cannot be overestimated. There is already talk that Hockey Canada plans a four-city arrangement for next year.

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